

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-15. (canceled)

16. (new) A method for updating a digital map comprising elements of a traffic route network, in a user end device on which at least one user application of the digital map runs, relative to a second digital map arranged in a control center, comprising the steps of:

selecting an element subset of the digital map to be updated at the user end device;

requesting updating of the selected element subset from the control center via an at least temporary data link;

selecting an updated element subset from the second digital map from the control center;

determining whether an additional element subset at the user end device should be updated to maintain the digital map internally consistent after updating of the selected element subset;

selecting the additional element subset from the second digital map if it is determined in the determining step that updating is needed to maintain internal consistency of the digital map; and

transmitting at least one of the selected updated element subset and the

updated additional element subset from the control center to the user end device.

17. (new) A method for updating a digital map comprising elements of a traffic route network, in a user end device on which at least one user application of the digital map runs, relative to a second digital map arranged in a control center, comprising the steps of:

selecting an element subset of the digital map to be updated at the user end device;

requesting updating of the selected element subset from the control center via an at least temporary data link;

transmitting updated element subset data from the second digital map from the control center to the user end device via an at least temporary data link;

determining at the user end device after receipt of the updated element subset whether at least one additional element subset of the digital map require updating to maintain the digital map internally consistent;

requesting updating of the at least one additional element subsets; and transmitting updated additional element subset data from the second digital map from the control center to the user end device.

18. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein
the element subset to be updated comprises at least one of a geographic area, a route as a series of edges, a class of routes, one or more points of interest,

and classes of points of interest

19. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein
the element subset to be updated comprises at least one of a geographic
area, a route as a series of edges, a class of routes, one or more points of interest,
and classes of points of interest

20. (new) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein
consistency with respect to the user application which is running or with
respect to any user application which is running on the user end device is
ensured by selecting the additional element subset in such a way that after the
data for updating the additional element subset has been supplied there is at
least one of:

no route in the digital map of the user end device at whose end it is
necessary for traffic route network users to turn around if this route is not also
included in the second digital map,

no two routes at whose ends traffic route network users must turn around
if the two routes are connected in the second digital map by a small number of
edges,

no routes on which allocated turning around restrictions apply which are
included in the second digital map as a result of at least one of routes and route
data which is relevant to reaching a point of interest is as up to date as the data
of the point of interest itself, and

element dependencies are transmitted completely.

21. (new) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein consistency with respect to the user application which is running or with respect to any user application which is running on the user end device is ensured by selecting the additional element subset in such a way that after the data for updating the additional element subset has been supplied there is at least one of:

no route in the digital map of the user end device at whose end it is necessary for traffic route network users to turn around if this route is not also included in the second digital map,

no two routes at whose ends traffic route network users must turn around if the two routes are connected in the second digital map by a small number of edges,

no routes on which allocated turning around restrictions apply which are included in the second digital map as a result of at least one of routes and route data which is relevant to reaching a point of interest is as up to date as the data of the point of interest itself, and

element dependencies are transmitted completely.

22. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the at least temporary data link between a user end device and control center is a mobile radio link.

23. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein
the at least temporary data link between a user end device and control
center is a mobile radio link.

24. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein
the user end device automatically requests control center updating at least
one of periodically and when a user application of the digital map is started.

25. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein
the user end device automatically requests control center updating at least
one of periodically and when a user application of the digital map is started.

26. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the
steps of:

transmitting further data items from the control center to the user end
device for use restoring a logic link between specific updated elements from the
second digital map and inconsistent non-corrected elements in the digital map at
the user end device; and

creating the logic link to eliminate internal inconsistencies at the user end
device.

27. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

transmitting further data items from the control center to the user end device for use restoring a logic link between specific updated elements from the second digital map and inconsistent non-corrected elements in the digital map at the user end device; and

creating the logic link to eliminate internal inconsistencies at the user end device.

28. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein data for updating the element subset to be updated includes elements of the second digital map contained only partially in the element subset to be updated.

29. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein data for updating the element subset to be updated includes elements of the second digital map contained only partially in the element subset to be updated.

30. (new) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein information about partitions constituting a decomposition of the digital map on a geographic basis in the user end device are stored at the control center end, and

a geographic area which is to be updated is identifiable by a corresponding partition reference.

31. (new) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein information about partitions constituting a decomposition of the digital map on a geographic basis in the user end device are stored at the control center end, and

a geographic area which is to be updated is identifiable by a corresponding partition reference.

32. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the user end device is registered at the control center end and identifies itself to the control center when there is a request to the control center.

33. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the user end device is registered at the control center end and identifies itself to the control center when there is a request to the control center.

34. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the user end device transmits version information for an element subset to be updated when there is a request to the control center.

35. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein
the user end device transmits version information for an element subset to
be updated when there is a request to the control center.

36. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein
an upper limiting value is provided for the size of at least one additional
element subset.

37. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein
an upper limiting value is provided for the size of at least one additional
element subset.

38. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein
logically associated element updates are transmitted in combination.

39. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein
logically associated element updates are transmitted in combination.

40. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein
if the digital map in the user end device only has a part of the second
digital map, inconsistency of the digital map is permitted at points at which
there is a boundary between a part which is included in the second digital map
and a part which is not included in the user end device.

41. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein
if the digital map in the user end device only has a part of the second
digital map, inconsistency of the digital map is permitted at points at which
there is a boundary between a part which is included in the second digital map
and a part which is not included in the user end device.

42. (new) A system for carrying out the method as claimed in claim 16,
comprising:

a user end device comprising memory for storage of the digital map and a
transceiver for communicating with the control center via the at least temporary
data link; and

a control center comprising control center memory for storing for the
second digital map and a transceiver for communicating with the user end device
via the at least temporary data link.

43. (new) A system for carrying out the method as claimed in claim 17,
comprising:

a user end device comprising memory for storage of the digital map and a
transceiver for communicating with the control center via the at least temporary
data link; and

a control center comprising control center memory for storing for the
second digital map and a transceiver for communicating with the user end device
via the at least temporary data link.